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## HINTS AT GRAFT

If What This Correspondent Says Is True, People Will Air Some Scandals in the Next Campaign.

Editor, Chicago Eagle: A great many contracts are being let for government work. I hope it is all being done without the scandal or graft attending work done for local authorities. I was a friend of the late City Clerk John Siman and enjoyed the pleasure of his confidence. He told me some things about remarkable overcharges for supplies in the city clerk's office which he had discovered and which in his courageous and honest way he entirely wiped out. The press made some mention of the reforms he instituted but did not go back into the history of the graft that once prevailed. There are reports current of wholesale graft alleged to have been carried on for some time in another department entirely distinct from the clerk's office, financed by the City, if not entirely controlled by it. These reports circulated everywhere, tell of a whack-up between a certain official whose name is sometimes in print and certain parties to whom he gives large orders for supplies. The report is that this official is getting rich on his share of the spoils.

This official, whose familiars are alleged to be not always upright citizens, is said to divide with surety contractors whose records, from being murder accessories to juggling with ballots and franchise ordinances, are as notorious as their alleged telephonic and non-telephonic careers. I enclose some copies of the daily papers touching on some of these points which you might care to reproduce some time as these persons figure quite prominently in them. The record of some of these contractors is frightful, as many men high in public life can testify. Can this sort of thing go on forever? Or is the community so calloused that common talk and street gossip, as well as facts that will force themselves into the light, are viewed lightly while the people are robbed?

P. O'BRIEN.

## NATURALIZATION

Aliens resident within Cook county may file declarations of intention to become citizens, or petitions for naturalization before the clerks of the following named courts:

United States District court, room 600 Federal building.  
Superior court, room 437 County building.  
Circuit court, room 412 County building.

Declarations of intention may be filed by aliens 18 years of age or over. No witnesses are required at the time of filing declarations, nor is the alien required to reside in this country any specified time prior to the date of filing his declaration. Declarations of intention are invalid for all purposes seven years after date of filing.

Petitions for naturalization or final papers may be filed after completion of five years' continuous residence in the United States, but not less than two years after the date of declaration of intention, and the alien must have resided in the state where his petition is filed at least one year next preceding the date of filing.

If the alien arrived in the United States after June 29, 1906, a certificate of arrival must be obtained from the commissioner of naturalization before filing his petition. Blank forms for this purpose may be obtained from the clerk of either of the courts above mentioned.

Petitions for naturalization must be verified by the affidavit of at least two credible witnesses, who have personally known the applicant for at least five years next preceding the date of his application.

A petition for naturalization must be signed by the applicant in his own handwriting and he must be able to speak the English language.

A petition must be filed duly verified ninety days prior to the date of final hearing in court.

Aliens who have resided in two or more states in this country during the last five years, or those who have other complicated questions, should call on the chief naturalization examiner, room 776 Federal building, where they will be fully advised.

Chicago gives to its people the poorest water service of any city in the world for the money they pay for it. With an exhaustless body of fresh water at her door Chicago is constantly talking about installing water meters in every flat and in every home to stop "waste." This is in the face of the fact that the enormous surplus in the water fund is constantly being appropriated to meet other expenses of the city government instead of being used to extend and build up the water system. Water meters in every flat in Chicago would bring on a pestilence in this big city in a short time.

Every man who talks of water meters or water waste in the homes of Chicago should be charged as a public enemy. The people cannot have too much water. To limit its use means pestilence and disease. New York goes 168 miles for fresh water and the great aqueduct which carries it to her people cost over \$500,000,000. It is one of the marvels of modern times and ranks alongside of the Panama Canal as one of the wonders of the world.

Liverpool, England, is supplied with fresh water by an aqueduct which brings a supply from Wales and yet there is no talk of "waste" over there. Other European cities go even farther for their supply of water.

But Chicago, with an abundance at hand, is always howling about "waste." An enormous sum is diverted from the water fund every year to supply the wants of other city departments as you can learn from the recommendations of the finance committee to the city council in the printed council reports.

If the water fund was properly used, a pumping station could be built at the lake end of every section line in the city. If this was done you would hear no more about "water waste" and the necessity for meters in every house.

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## THE PEOPLE ARE SLAVES

The overbearing insolence of some of the office holders in the City Hall and County Building calls attention to the fact that an Office Holding Aristocracy is rapidly growing into permanent control of our public affairs.

Among our officials there are some honorable exceptions—some men who feel that they are in office to serve the people.

But there are others—and their number is increasing—who imagine that the only thing the average citizen is good for is to vote.

Party allegiance is forgotten when they are sworn in and the jobs go to relatives, regardless of party or fitness.

The Office Holding Aristocracy has no use for the voter after he has used him.

Herbert Kaufman paid his respects to their treatment of the public in these words:

"You consider yourself an important person because your position occasionally permits you to annoy people. But so can a gnat, a rusty hinge, a rattling window and other minor bothers."

"Impudence is a Smart-aleck's conception of impressiveness—a backstairs notion of 'big folks' behavior. An upstart betrays himself by the manner he displays his authority."

"Those who aren't accustomed to the use of power invariably abuse it. Insolence is the snarl of the insignificant—'big head' evidence of a small one."

"You merely show up when you show off. We all know just about what your job pays and therefore how much intelligence it demands—so why bluff?"

"Office boys, bell hops and cash girls may possibly mistake your impertinence as a manifestation of superiority, but the public recognizes the ass in the ill fitting lion's skin."

"Headquarters always hears the creak in the machine and soon locates the source of the trouble."

The voters of Chicago may be fools some of the time; they may be so supine part of the time that these Public Office Aristocrats look upon them as serfs.

But the voters of Chicago are not going to be fools all of the time. And when they wake up, some of these swell heads will hear from them.

The forest preserve district of Cook county recently completed the purchase of five parcels of scattered property containing a total of 117.56 acres and costing \$71,737. The purchases include: From Frederick Schultz, 35.38 acres north of Ogden avenue, extending to the Salt Creek in the township of Lyons, for \$27,424, or \$776 an acre; from David S. Wegg, 23.95 acres south of the St. Paul Railroad, east of River road and north of Grand avenue in Niles, for \$16,771, or approximately \$700 an acre; from Robert F. Schenck, 30.5 acres lying east or directly across the river from the village of Desplaines, formerly known as the Northwestern Park, for \$14,500, or \$475 an acre; from Henry Brodman and Martha A. Wemerslager, 20 acres north of Desplaines and east of the West River road in Leyden, for \$6,917, or \$330 an acre; from James A. Reeves, 7.73 acres east of River road and west of Milwaukee road in Northfield, for \$6,125, or \$200 an acre.

Colonel William Porter Adams, the well-known Chicago manufacturer and head of the great Adams & Elting Company, is one of the most highly respected business men in Chicago. He is one of a famous Massachusetts family, being distantly related to the family which gave two Adamases the presidency of the United States. Colonel Adams himself was born at Cambridgeport, Mass., December 26, 1863. He has long been identified with military organizations, commencing in the Cadet Corps of the Twenty-third Brooklyn regiment, serving as a lieutenant in the Thirtieth New York and as Colonel of the famous order of the Old Guard. He is a member of the Sons of the Revolution, Society of the War of 1812 and the Society of Colonial Wars. He is a well-known member of the leading clubs of Chicago, including the Chicago Athletic and the Hamilton clubs. He is also a member of the Minneapolis Commercial Club. Colonel Adams is respected and popular with all who know him. He has been mentioned for mayor of Chicago, and although not a candidate for any office, would make an ideal public official.

One of the famous articles exclusively handled by the well-known Italian and Greek Products Company at 1518 South Wabash avenue, of which Emelio Longhi is proprietor, is the Metexa Cognac.

The Metexa Cognac is quite the most modern and advanced liquor. It has been awarded 34 gold medals, with the highest honors, at the Exposition of Paris, Berlin, London, Chicago, Brussels, Vienna, Amsterdam, Marseilles, Munich, Prague, Bucharest, etc.

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Sold at all drug stores, best hotels and cafes and bars.—Adv.

## JIM'S INVESTMENT

By LOUISE OLIVER.

The front door closed and Miss Martha, catching the sound, called out cheerily, "Is that you, Betty?"

"Yes," answered Betty, appearing in the kitchen doorway and drawing off her gloves.

"What's the matter, honey? Tired?"

"A little."

"I'm making you some ginger cookies, the kind you like."

Betty put her arms around her aunt and gave her a tender little hug. "It isn't my body or brain that's tired, it's just my disposition. I'm tired of everything—except you."

"Surely not Jim! Why, you're to be married in a month! Maggie Harper is coming tomorrow to do the white sewing. I thought I'd hurry up and finish here and we could go down to McAllister's and pick the embroidery for the petticoats."

"I don't think I want Maggie to start the white sewing tomorrow, and I can't bear the thought of Miss Gauge fussing over a silk dress and serge suit for me, and I despise the regular round of parties for brides where you see the same people and the same silver everywhere you go. I don't seem to want anything—here."

Miss Martha, who had been looking forward to these very festivities with childlike anticipation, stood open-mouthed.

"It's just this way, auntie!" brightening. "I have a plan. It isn't that I'm tired of Jim; I'm sure I'm not, but life in this humdrum old town is wearing me as shiny as an old coat. I need freshening up a bit, and if I don't get it now I won't after I'm married, for I'll have the house to take care of. We're going to New York!"

"New York!" gasped Miss Martha. "Yes, I've got a thousand dollars in the trust company. That will buy us a few dollars and take us to a good hotel for a week."

"A thousand dollars for one week!"

Miss Martha sat down weakly on the edge of a chair. "Why, it's taken you five years to save it! And you were going to get some things for the house, and—"

"Yes, I know," impatiently, "but I've decided that Jim will have to take care of that. I've made up my mind. We're going tomorrow, auntie, and that's all there is to it. You'd better get ready."

That night when Jim came he heard the news. He took it quietly, so quietly that Betty was a little disappointed. "I think it will do you good, Betty, and Aunt Martha too. If you like, I'll send word to my cousin, Eddie Stevens, in Brooklyn to act as handy man. It's better to have a man around if you want to go to places in the evening. It's hard getting taxis after a show and things like that."

"Will you miss me, Jim?"

"Of course I shall."

"What will you do in the evening?"

"I can put down the linoleum in the bathroom and kitchen if you have time to pick them out tomorrow morning. And I can put up the shades all over the house. The other things can wait until you get back. By the way, I'll wire for rooms, if you like. The New York hotels are very full, they say."

Really Betty missed a thrill she had expected. She wanted Jim to be crushed at the idea of her going away. She sighed. Practical, matter of fact man.

New York was a confusing whirl from the moment they arrived, and the prices staggering, from their twenty-dollar-a-day rooms at the Giltmore to their forty-five cent cup of coffee. But Betty had decided not to let money worry her. The first day they bought a few clothes. After that they devoted themselves to pleasure, or at least Betty did.

Eddie Stevens was invaluable. He had lived in New York long enough to know places, and being a journalist he knew many interesting people. Before she knew it Betty had a round half dozen of ardent admirers who made life interesting.

There were dinners and teas and luncheons, matinees and skating parties and dancing. Betty bought more clothes and her stock of money dwindled.

Every day there had been a letter from Jim, but in the whirl of excitement Betty only half read them. "I'll have Jim all the rest of my life," she said, "and this will last only a few days. It seems ridiculous to be reading about matching the figures of oilcloth when the tips I give the floor boy in one day would pay a man to put it down," she added pettishly to Aunt Martha.

Betty was going out to dinner and the theater. Aunt Martha, who had a headache, was going to have a light meal in her room and then go to bed.

The phone rang and Betty answered. "They're waiting for me, Aunt Martha. I must go down. I've ordered your toast and tea, so you go to bed and get a good rest. I don't know when I'll be home."

But it seemed only a few minutes later that Betty came suddenly into the now darkened room.

"What's wrong, dear? What's the matter?"

"If you're able we're going right away, auntie. There is a train in an hour and a half. Do you think you could make it if I help you?"

"But tell me, dear! What is it?"

"I—I've just learned something. I haven't any money. The trust company went under and Jim didn't tell me. It was his money we came on. Oh, what a silly goose I've been. He's the dearest, best person in the world, and I never mean to leave him again!"

"Then I should think," said Aunt Martha, crawling stiffly out of bed, "that he'd consider it the best investment he ever made. Yes, I can be ready, dear."

Political Parties.

Every great political party that has done this country any good has given to it some immortal ideas that have outlived the members of the party.—James A. Garfield.

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